

01984

1996/12/05

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJ: CINCPAC POSITION ON TAIWAN

SUMMARY: Should the Chinese raise the question of Taiwan and U.S. intentions in the Straits, the following talking points should be used emphasizing the point that U.S. policy has been consistent in this area.

KEY POINTS

- * We support **only peaceful resolution**; U.S. policy will continue to reflect this interest
- * We do **not** support Taiwan independence, nor U.N. membership as a **sovereign state**
- * U.S. **continues to support** One China Policy, Three Joint Communiqués
- * U.S. shares with China interest in maintaining peace and stability in the region

DISCUSSION

- * The U.S. has **strongly articulated** that any effort to resolve the Taiwan issue by other than **peaceful means** would be viewed with **grave concern**, a point we make to all parties involved in the issue
 - ** U.S. has a strategic national interest in regional stability
 - ** We continue to believe the Taiwan issue is best resolved in a peaceful manner by the Chinese people themselves
- * U.S. supports **only peaceful resolution** of the Taiwan issue.
 - ** Gratified that tensions have eased in recent months
 - ** U.S. supportive of actions by both Beijing and Taipei that have helped reduce tensions
 - ** We hope this trend will continue and lead to conditions that are suitable for a resumption of cross-Strait dialogue
- * U.S. does **not support** Taiwan independence; nor do we support U.N. membership for Taiwan as a **sovereign state**
- * We continue to support the One China Policy, and carry out this policy in a way consistent with the Three Joint Communiqués and the Taiwan Relations Act

BOTTOM LINE: The United States has a strong interest in the **stability** in the Taiwan Strait and the region. We continue to believe, however, the Taiwan issue is best resolved in a peaceful manner by the **Chinese people themselves**.